

Letter Bk. I.  
p. 247

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

30<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> 1756 & transmitted by Capt Dyer—

Sir

In my Letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> Inst. I gave you some Account of one Johnson who had been sent hither from Fort Cumberland & advised you of my Intention to have him formally examined before the Council, this was done the 13<sup>th</sup> of this Month as you will see by a Copy of the Council Minutes herewith sent & as the Fellow gave pretty much the same Account then that he had before done a Warrant was issued for apprehending & bringing before us on the 29<sup>th</sup> the several Persons whom he had on his Examination accused or named. They were yesterday brought hither & some of them examined but as they soon convinced us that the Prisoner had charged them wrongfully that he had assumed a feigned Name & was in fact a great Impostor we discharged them & several of them being extremely poor I ordered the Sheriff to defray their Expences & convey them back to their respective homes: As I inclose you the minutes of this Council also I need not tell you that the Informant did not when he was called into the Room where they were so much as know the Priest or M<sup>r</sup> Wheeler & that he thereupon made a Recantation giving us at the same time the Reasons that induced him to frame & insist on such a Story as he had before told & sworn to the truth of. I shall forthwith send for that Plummer & the Soldiers that came with him from Fort Cumberland & I doubt not but it will on Enquiry be found that the Fellow has given a true account of their Behaviour towards him. I have already advised the Earl of Loudoun of my having such a Person in Custody & as I presume enough Witnesses will be found in the Company that was Capt Clark's to convict him of Desertion he will probably be punished with Death by the Sentence of a Court Martial. We are told that two Priests & a Lay Roman Catholick are imprisoned in Phil<sup>a</sup> for seditious Practices but what they are particularly accused of we do not yet learn, The Affair however is much talked of & as Every one is at Liberty to make Conjectures many People among us are persuaded that some horrid Plot will be shortly discovered. Governor Denny is just returned from the Frontiers of that Province whither he had been to hold a Treaty with some of the Delaware Indians who resided on the Susquehanna River but have for some time past been at War with us. They would by what I can find have made a seperate Peace with the Pensilvanians but Governor Denny let them know that he was not at Liberty to hear such a Proposal, that if they were willing to make a League with all the English & to break with the French S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Johnson would hold a Treaty with them for that purpose but that nothing could be done with them unless they